

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hideo Nakajima) Group Art Unit Unknown
Int'l Appl. No. : PCT/JP00/04567)
Int'l Filing Date: July 10, 2000)
For : PRODUCTION METHOD FOR)
POROUS METAL BODY)
Examiner : Unknown)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination on the merits, please amend the above-captioned U.S.
National Phase Application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Prior to the first line of the specification on page 1, please insert the following paragraph:

--This application is the U.S. National Phase under 35 U.S.C. §371 of International
Application PCT/JP00/04567, filed July 10, 2000, which claims priority to Japanese Patent
Application No. 11/195260, filed July 9, 1999. The International Application was published
under PCT Article 21(2) in a language other than English.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 20, with the following rewritten
paragraph:

-- Fig. 3 is a conceptual diagram showing the gas-dissolving characteristics of the solid
and liquid phases in the cooling and solidifying step of the molten metal in which gas has been
dissolved. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 7, with the following rewritten
paragraph: